

## Cargo Preference Supports U.S.-Flag Vessels with Imports

By Sharon Jenkins, Office of Cargo Preference

Recently, the U.S.-flag vessel *MV Industrial Challenger*, owned by Intermarine, delivered a prototype locomotive to the Port of Albany (New York) for delivery to the Federal Railroad Administration's testing facility in Pueblo, Colorado. The locomotive, built in Spain, is the first of a fleet to be delivered to New Jersey Transit. The balance of the units will be assembled in the United States from domestic and imported parts. The locomotive weighed 131 metric tons, and was scheduled to travel to Pueblo on its own wheels.

The Maritime Administration's (MARAD) Office of Cargo Preference ensures government-impelled cargo travels on U.S.-flag ships. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has partnered with them so that transit equipment, such as that going to New York, is also carried on U.S.-flag ships. While the projects are

generally limited to U.S.-domestic programs, in many cases the project materiel is sourced from outside the United States and is delivered by U.S.-flag ocean carriers. Hundreds of passenger-car shells have also been carried by U.S.-flag carriers, with many more to come in the future.

Some of the other projects on which the FTA and MARAD have already worked very well together involve new Washington (D.C.) Metropolitan Area Transit Authority rail cars from Spain and light-rail cars from Brazil to New York for the New York City Transit. In the next six months, MARAD expects to see some 200 rail cars delivered by U.S.-flag vessels from their manufacturing plant in Hungary to southern California where the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority will put them into service.



*Prototype locomotive being unloaded from the U.S.-flag vessel *MV Industrial Challenger* at the Port of Albany (New York)*

### Upcoming Events

World Research Group Conference on Maritime Port and Cargo Security  
San Diego, Ca.  
January 25-26, 2005  
[www.worldrg.com](http://www.worldrg.com)

MarineLog Conference on Maritime and Port Security  
Washington, D.C.  
February 1-2, 2005  
Jane Poterala, (212) 620-7209

Ship Operations Cooperative Program's First 2005 Conference  
Sponsored by the Maritime Protective Service  
March 8-10, 2005  
Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Contact Kim Rester at (202) 366-0364  
[www.socp.org](http://www.socp.org)

If you know of an upcoming event you would like published in the *MARAD Update*, please submit it to Ella Thomas at [ella.thomas@marad.dot.gov](mailto:ella.thomas@marad.dot.gov).